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Total Assets £14,518,441 10 0.  
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Promotes a healthy action of the skin  
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5 p.m.—Auction of Postage Stamps at

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Miscellaneous.

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General Memoranda.

WEDNESDAY, June 30:—

11 a.m.—Auction of Ladies' Brooms,

Skins &amp; Underwear, at Mr Geo. F.

Lammer's Sales Rooms.

2.30 p.m.—Auction of Household Furni-

ture, at Messrs Hughes &amp; Hogg's

Sales Rooms.

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The China Mail

HONGKONG, MONDAY, JUNE 23, 1909.

## POETS AND THE PUBLIC.

It has long been an axiom in literary

circles in England that, taken as a

whole, the British nation is callously

unresponsive to the claims of its poets.

This is to put the matter into the

terms of the market place, the public

will not buy sufficient of a poet's

wares to keep him from starving. As

the chief classical example, of course,

we have CHATTERBOX, who committed

suicide when reduced to the last

extremity. But we have always

been inclined to think that a good deal

of bunkum is associated with this settled

attack on the supposed indifference of

the British Philistine to the appeal of

poetry. Our contention is that if

the poet will only provide the poetry

which the public wants, he will find

sympathizers and to spare provided for

him by readers and book-buyers. Look

at the case of Lord Tennyson. He died

worth £57,206, all of which he made out

of the £55,000 which he left behind

out of his poetical and mystical

writings; ROBERT BROWNING, whose

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